

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re PATENT APPLICATION of

Applicant	:	Karl-Günther HÄNSEL, et al	)	
			)	
Application No.	:	PCT/DE97/02167	)	
			)	
Filed	:	April 26, 1997	)	
			)	
National Stage No.:		09/202,759	)	INFORMATION
			)	DISCLOSURE
National filing date:		December 22, 1998	)	STATEMENT
			)	
For	:	METHOD OF PROCESSING POSTAL	)	
		MATTERS	)	
			)	
Attorney Docket	:	32221-143591 NNK	)	

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February 28, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R.1.97 ff within the time specified under 37 CFR 1.97(b).

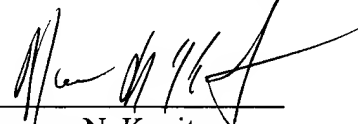
Attached are copies of the seven (7) references for consideration of the Examiner. The three enclosed European references are referred to in the International Search Report. German reference DE 195 31 392 C1 is cited and discussed on page 1 of the present application. The remaining three references are cited in the enclosed copy of an Office Action issued by the German Patent Office in connection with the counterpart German application. With regard to the relevancy of the two German language references cited in the German Office Action, the following is an English translation of the two paragraphs of the German Office Action that refer the references.

"In addition, it follows from patent claim 4 in reference (1) that characters, which have not been evaluated clearly and completely in the OCR procedure are supplemented through a manual input. According to claim 5, they are subsequently submitted to a renewed (automatic) OCR evaluation. A transfer of this measure to the subject matter according to patent claim 1 is within the scope of action of a person skilled in the art and is not inventive.

A Form PTO 1449 listing the attached references is attached.

In view of the above, no further statement of relevance is required. Moreover, as all requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 ff, and all official guide lines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been complied with, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the references and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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<b>FORM PTO-1449</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>CITATION</b> <b>(modified)</b>		Atty Docket: 32221-143591		Application No.: 09/202,759			
		Applicant: Karl-Günther HÄNSEL, et al.					
		Filing Date: December 22, 1998		Group:			

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
S.A	AE	0 589 119 A1	March 30, 1994	EPO	—	—	—	
S.A	AF	0 584 607 A2	March 2, 1994	EPO	—	—	—	
S.A	AG	0 635 314 A1	Jan. 25, 1995	EPO	—	—	—	X
S.A	AH	DE 195 31 392 C1	Jan. 23, 1997	Germany	—	—	—	X
S.A	AI	DE 43 04 082 A1	August 18, 1994	Germany	—	—	—	X
	AJ							
	AK							
	AL							
	AM							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		
S.A	AN	IBM Brochure "M.A.R.S. – IBM Automatic Mail Address Recognition System", May 1995
S.A	AO	BUCHARD/RUSSAU "Die Post geht ab", TR Transfer 35/94, pages 98-99.
	AP	
	AQ	